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Colby backs sanctions in CIA leaks

Washington (AP)—William E. Colby says he would like to see a law providing punishment for Central Intelligence Agency employees and former employees who reveal secrets.

The former director of the CIA said he would want only "a very limited law" applying only to agency employees who take an oath of secrecy.

"Secondly," Mr. Colby added, "I would require that the secret be screened by an impartial judge to make sure it's a real secret and not a coverup of some wrongdoing."

Mr. Colby's remarks were made in an interview on the CBS television program 60 Minutes, broadcast yesterday. They were prompted by allegations last week on the same program by John Stockwell, a former head of the CIA's Angola task force, that "blundering stupidity" by the agency paved the way for massive Cuban and Soviet intervention in Angola.

Mr. Stockwell also accused Mr. Colby of misleading CIA oversight committees about the extent of CIA involvement in Angola.

"I stand by the fact that I deny that I misled Congress when I described the basic thrust of our program in Angola," Mr. Colby said, repeating a denial he made eight days ago when asked to comment on Mr. Stockwell's allegations.

Mr. Stockwell appeared on the television program on the eve of publication of his book about the operation called "In Search of Enemies."

Mr. Colby's appearance was on the eve of publication of his book, "Honorable Men—My Life in the CIA."

Mr. Stockwell said he broke his oath of secrecy to the CIA because he learned of activities by the CIA that went counter to what he had been told when he joined the agency. He said he felt this released him from his oath.

"Well, that's great rationalization because I'm sure if Mr. Stockwell joined CIA ... he read enough spy stories and novels and other accounts of the invisible government and all the other books written in the early '60's about CIA, that he knew roughly what kind of an organization he was joining," Mr. Colby said.

"And if he says that suddenly it doesn't turn out to be the Boy Scouts, I think he was asking a little much. And he's not re-

Mr. Colby said Mr. Stockwell violated his pledge by not submitting his book to the agency for review before publication.

A previous book written about the CIA by a former employee without prior clearance, "Decent Interval" by Frank Snepp, has led to a civil damages suit filed against the author by the Justice Department.